## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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2005 SEP 28 P 3 5

CISTRICT OF MA .

STONINGTON VINEYARDS, INC., ROBERTA WOLMAN and NICK PAPAS,

Plaintiffs,

V.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-CV-10982-JLT

EDDIE J. JENKINS, in his official capacity as Chairman of the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, et al.,

Defendants.

## STATE DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR JUDGMENT ON THE PLEADINGS

The defendants Eddie J. Jenkins, in his official capacity as Chairman of the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, and Suzanne lannella and Robert F Cronin, as Associate Commissioners of the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, (the "State Defendants"), hereby oppose the plaintiffs' motion for judgment on pleadings. Pursuant to Nat'l Rev. Corp. v. Violet, 807 F.2d 285 (1st Cir. 1986), decline to tal position on the constitutionality of the challenged aspects of the Massachusetts Liquor Control Act, G.L. c. 138, § 1 et seq... If this Court determines that the challenged aspects of that state are unconstitutional, the resulting question of severability should be certified to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Alternatively, if this Court elects not to certify the question, it should sever the statute by eliminating the current authority for direct shipping by Massachusetts "farm wineries" rather than eliminating direct shipment restrictions on out-of-state wineries, as plaintiffs request. Severing the statute in this way would eliminate the alle

discrimination against interstate commerce while minimizing the impact on Massachusetts' scheme of alcohol regulation.

For further grounds the State Defendants rely on their Memorandum of Law in Suppor of State Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Judgment on The Pleadings and Motion to Certify Question of Law, submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

By their attorneys,

THOMAS F. REILLY ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Dated: September 28, 2005

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the above document was served upon the attorney of record for each other party by mail (by hand)